



St. Matthew

ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

First Sunday of Advent
December 1, 2024



Parish Purpose Statement


Our parish purpose is to use beauty and truth to inspire and develop disciples to transform the secular order by the grace of God, for His glorification and the edification of man.

OFFICE INFORMATION

Mon/Wed/Fri:
8:30 am - 11:30 am
12:30 pm - 3:30 pm

701 Church St.
Flint, MI 48502
(810)232-0880

StMatthewFlint.org

 StMatthewCatholicChurchFlint

MASS SCHEDULE

Sunday
11:00 am (OF), 1:00 pm (EF)

Mon/Tues/Wed/Fri
12:10 pm (OF)

First Saturday
9:00 am (EF)

OF: Ordinary Form
EF: Extraordinary Form

CONFESSION

Sunday: 2:30 pm
Monday: 5:00 - 6:30 pm
Saturday: 10:30 - 11:30 am

ADORATION

Monday: 12:40 - 7:00 pm

LITURGY OF THE HOURS

Monday: 7:00 am ; 6:30 pm
Friday: 7:00 am

PARISH INFORMATION

PARISH STAFF

PASTOR:
Fr. Anthony Strouse-franthonystrouse@flintcatholic.org

DEACON:
Dcn. Mark Danaho dcnmarkdanaho@flintcatholic.org

OFFICE MANAGER:
Position Available

MUSIC DIRECTOR:
Joseph Dobos josephdobos@flintcatholic.org

FAITH FORMATION:
Amanda Williams amandawilliams@flintcatholic.org

CAMPUS MINISTRY:
Tim Goodrich timgoodrich@flintcatholic.org

BOOKKEEPER:
Allison Gonser

MAINTENANCE DIRECTOR:
Michael Wilson michaelwilson@flintcatholic.org

CUSTODIAN:
Damien Johnson damienjohnson@flintcatholic.org

HALL RENTAL

Interested in renting Augustinian Hall, Undercroft or the gym for an event? Contact our facility manager at: rentals@flintcatholic.org

BULLETIN SUBMISSIONS

Submit items by Monday for publication in the following week's bulletin to: Amandawilliams@flintcatholic.org

SACRAMENTS

BAPTISM - Call the office to make arrangements.

FIRST COMMUNION - If you believe your child is ready to receive his or her First Communion, there is no need to wait! Call the office to get the process started.

CONFIRMATION - If you or your child are seeking the sacrament of confirmation, please contact Amanda Williams at the parish office. We will begin prep for 2025 Confirmations in the fall of 2024.

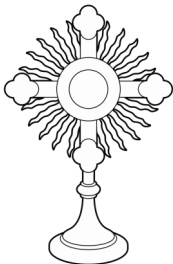
MATRIMONY - Contact Fr. Anthony at least 9 months in advance.

SACRAMENTAL PREP - We accept sacramental prep from Catholic schools as well as prep done at home. Call the office with any questions regarding your child's sacramental prep.

BECOMING CATHOLIC - If you are interested in becoming Catholic or just learning more, we look forward to helping you! Contact the parish office to setup a meeting.

ADORATION MONDAYS

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament occurs every Monday after the 12:10 pm daily Mass. Benediction is at 7:00 pm. Everyone is welcomed and encouraged to spend time with the Blessed Sacrament whenever is possible during our time of Adoration. It is an opportune time to pray, read, and reflect on our life. If you are interested in signing up to become a regular adorer, the sign up is located on our parish website. We are in special need of adorers from 3:00 to 5:00 pm.



WEEKLY CONTRIBUTIONS

Anticipated Weekly Income: \$6,100

SCAN FOR QUICK DONATION, THANK YOU!



Week of:	November 3, 2024	November 10, 2024	November 17, 2024
Actual Income	\$ 5,757.38	\$ 9,166.32	\$ 7,315.26
Over (Under)	\$ (342.62)	\$ 3,066.32	\$ 1,215.26

LITURGICAL LIFE AT ST. MATTHEW

SUNDAY'S READINGS

Ordinary Form
First Sunday of Advent

Jeremiah 33: 14-16
Ps 25: 4-5, 8-9, 10, 14
1 Thessalonians 3:12- 4:2
Luke 2: 25-28, 34-36

Extraordinary Form
First Sunday of Advent

Romans 13: 11-14
Ps 24: 3, 4
Luke 21: 25-33

LECTOR SCHEDULE

December 8 J P McAvoy

December 15 K Jayabalan

MUSIC MINISTRY

"...and sing the love amazing..."

Recently, Father Anthony has written about ad orientem, which means "to the East," in worship. Our hymns are filled with references to looking toward the East.. "People look East, the time is near." "They looked up and saw a star shining in the East beyond them far." "The King shall come when morning dawns, and light triumphant breaks; when beauty gilds the eastern hills, and life to joy awakes."

Joseph Dobos, Director of Sacred Music.
josephdobos@flintcatholic.org

MASS INTENTIONS & EVENTS † (Deceased)

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 1

First Sunday of Advent

9:30a Catechesis of the Good Shepherd / Faith Explorers
11:00a The People of St. Matthew Parish
1:00p † Louis Alleva by Marty and Marcia Piechowski
2:30p Confessions

MONDAY, DECEMBER 2

St. Bibiana (Trad.)

7:00a Lauds (Morning Prayer)
12:00p Angelus
12:10p † Stephen Racine by the Family
12:30p Adoration
5:00p Confessions
6:30p Vespers (Evening Prayer)
7:00p Benediction

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 3

St. Francis Xavier

12:00p Angelus
12:10p † Kaveon Dux by the Kray Family

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 4

St. John Damascene (New) / St. Peter Chrysologus (Trad.) / St. Barbara (Trad.)

12:00p Angelus
12:10p † Ricky Kray by the Kray Family

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 5

St. Sabbas (Trad.)

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 6

St. Nicholas

7:00a Lauds (Morning Prayer)
12:00p Angelus
12:10p † Fr. Ronald Scheible by Pat Dailey

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 7

St. Ambrose

7:30a † Fr. Louis Madey by the Hodack Family
9:00a Potluck Breakfast
10:30a Confessions
11:35a Rosary Walk
4:00p Advent Tea

SAINT OF THE WEEK



Saint Ambrose was a pivotal figure in early Christianity, known for his role as the Bishop of Milan, a theologian, and a defender against Arianism. Initially a Roman provincial governor, he was unexpectedly chosen as bishop, rapidly baptized, and ordained due to his reputation for wisdom and leadership. Ambrose wielded significant influence, not only through his eloquent sermons and theological writings but also in his assertive stance against imperial overreach, famously compelling Emperor Theodosius I to perform public penance after the massacre of Thessalonica. He introduced innovations in Church liturgy, including antiphonal chant, and his ethical writings, such as *De Officiis Ministrorum*, profoundly shaped Christian thought. Perhaps his most enduring legacy was his role in the conversion of Saint Augustine, cementing his place as a key architect of Western Christianity and a revered Doctor of the Church.

St. Ambrose, pray for us!

ADVENT SUNDAY KIDZ



WORDSEARCH

MARY
ANGEL
JESUS
ADVENT
CANDLE

JOSEPH
PURPLE
WREATH
BELIEVE

REJOICE
SAVIOR
EMMANUEL
GOODNEWS
ISRAEL



DON ANTONIO'S DISPATCH

Happy New Year! We begin our new liturgical year today with the first Sunday of Advent. And just like we have New (calendar) Year resolutions, perhaps we can make the following resolutions for our lives as disciples (I stole/adapted this from St. Mary Magdalene Orthodox Church in Fenton; the Orthodox celebrate the new liturgical year in September):

1. Read the Bible and the Lives of the Saints
2. Take decisions together with God
3. Observe fasts and abstinence throughout the year
4. Assist someone who feels lonely
5. Donate the things you don't need
6. Don't miss Mass on Sundays and Holydays
7. Get involved in volunteering
8. Go on a pilgrimage
9. Be forgiving
10. Receive the Eucharist more often (presuming you're in a state of grace)
11. Share the faith on social media
12. Sign-up for our email notifications

This is also our final push to get people to donate to Stewardship for Saints and Scholars. I know that times are

tough for many, and I appreciate the sacrificial gifts that many of you have already made to the campaign to support Catholic education. I also know that many of you homeschool, which is a great way to educate a child, when one has the requisite gifts. This is our parish's way to support Catholic education in the Diocese of Lansing. If you have not yet pledged or given, please do so as a way of sharing our responsibility for each other in the Diocese of Lansing. Thank you!

Last, and certainly not least, our annual *Rorate Coeli Mass* is this Saturday, 7 December, at 7:30 a.m. It's celebrated in the Extraordinary Form, entirely by candlelight. Please let your friends know, and invite them to come. We have plenty of books for those who are not as familiar with the 1962 Missal, and hopefully those who are regulars can help you feel comfortable. That afternoon we'll also have our Ladies' Advent Tea. We try to have events for families and different groups within families in our parish. If you have ideas, feel free to contact Amanda Williams, who helps guide our Parish Life Committee.

EXPLORING THE CATHOLIC FAITH

YOUTH GROUP

Any teens interested in joining St. Matthew's youth group can sign up on the parish website. The next meeting will be on **Monday, December 2 @ 7:00 pm—8:30 pm**. We will meet in the field-house.

GREATER FLINT AREA MEN'S GROUP

We will meet **December 4th from 6:30-8:00 pm** in the church basement. Come for fellowship and formation in the Catholic faith. No previous attendance or instruction is necessary. The group will pray Vespers and study the Compendium of the Catechism of the Catholic Church, which is available as a book and for free on the Vatican website.

CATECHESIS OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD

The first prophecy the child hears in the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd Atrium is from Isaiah 9:1 (or 9:2, depending on the translation): "The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light." The comparison of light to darkness is frequently used by the prophets in referring to the Messiah. The images used by the prophets are not simply poetic language; they are always connected to reality: the Messiah is light in a real sense, because He will bring a new knowledge of God to us, and this knowledge is light for our mind and it warms our heart.

LADIES STUDY GROUP

Tuesday evenings 6:30-8:00

Continuing our study of "How the Saints Shaped History" by local author, Randall Petrides. This book "focuses on the essential role of the saints as vessels of God's grace in moving the Church (and the world) through her two-thousand-year history.

Wednesday mornings 10:00-11:30

"A Right to be Merry" by Mother Mary Francis, PCC. "Can life really be 'merry' inside a Poor Clare cloister? This happy book reveals the challenges, cares and joys of that cloistered life." And it reminds us of the importance of their prayers for the sanctification of our world. Both meet at the home of Rae Ann Houbeck, Grand Blanc – 810-919-8696.

DECEMBER 6—ST. NICHOLAS' FEAST DAY

St. Nicholas Day, celebrated on December 6th, involves the tradition of leaving small gifts like chocolates, oranges, nuts, and candies in children's shoes or stockings the night before. The orange symbolizes the gold coins St. Nicholas gave to the needy, while chocolate, often shaped like coins or St. Nicholas figures, represents his generosity. Children leave their polished shoes or stockings out on December 5th, waking the next morning to find them filled with treats as a reminder of St. Nicholas's kindness and the spirit of giving.

At both entrances of the church there are small bags with chocolate coins and mandarin oranges, these are to assist you in celebrating this great feast day! Please take one for each of your children.

OUTREACH OPPORTUNITIES

NORTH END SOUP KITCHEN

St. Matthew is signed up to assist at the North End Soup Kitchen on Thursdays. Come on out and give a hand. You can drop in from 2 pm to 5:30 pm, or sign up for a day on the parish website! This is a great outreach opportunity for the entire family!

HOPE IN THE BOX

There is a Hope in the Box for Catholic Charities container in the Narthex. Specific monthly needs are listed on the box, but any personal needs items can be donated at any-time. Thank you in advance for your donations.



MEALS FOR MOMS

If you are an expectant mother of the parish and would like to participate, fill out the form available on our website and we will be in contact with you.

If you are interested in getting notifications whenever we have new families that are in need of meals, please email us at stmatthewmealsformoms@gmail.com

COMMUNITY FOOD PANTRY

We are looking for volunteers to be able to help at the Community Pantry at the former St. Pius X parish center. It would be on Tuesdays from 9:00 to 10:30 am. Please contact Karen at 810-287-2490 if you are interested.

GIVING TREE

Our giving tree is up! If you are able, please take an ornament and purchase a gift between the suggested amount of \$30-\$40 on clothes/toys for each child for Christmas (suggestions are on the tags). **Please return the item wrapped, with the Giving Tree Tag securely attached to the wrapped gift, no later than Sunday, December 14.** If you are unable to take a tag from the Giving Tree, but would like to help, you can make a monetary donation to help purchase gifts. Place your donation in an envelope, drop it in the collection basket or bring it to the office. **Be sure to mark "Giving Tree" on your envelope.** If you have any questions, contact the parish office or Christa Danic at (248) 709-6790. Thank you for your generosity!



IN & AROUND OUR PARISH



Our campaign thermometers are on the rise! Be sure to keep an eye on our progress as we continue to push those lines higher and higher. The campaign thermometer is

currently located in the back by the confessionals. We have currently raised \$140,345! As you may remember, our goal at St. Matthew is \$580,000. Thank you to everyone who has participated and to those who are praying about how they may make a difference.

Over the past several weeks, we've dedicated ourselves to keeping every parishioner informed about the campaign through mailings, phone calls, and thoughtful messages. We're here to answer any questions you may have and warmly invite your participation. Achieving our goal requires each parishioner's support, and together, we can make it possible. Please keep praying the campaign prayer for St. Matthew's success and for our devoted campaign volunteers who are giving so generously of their time and hearts.

COFFEE & DONUTS

Join us in the Undercroft for refreshments and fellowship after the 11 am Mass every 1st & 3rd Sundays of the Month! **Our next Coffee & Donuts will be on December 15th.** Call the office to sign up to bring donuts on either the first or third Sunday of the month.

LADIES ADVENT TEA WITH THE SAINTS

Join us on December 7 from 4 to 6 pm! For more information please visit the parish website or call the parish office. Registration is available using the QR code below.

St. Matthew
invites you to an
Advent Tea
with the Saints

with Guest Speaker:
Randall Petrides
author of
"How the Saints Shaped History"



December 7, 2024
4 pm - 6 pm
Augustinian Hall